

freely practice their faith in their ancient homeland.

I believe our Government should pursue a policy that works to end this blatant religious bigotry toward Assyrian Christians. We must work with local and national leaders in Turkey to demand that the religious and civil rights of the Assyrian people be protected under Turkish laws. We must continue to pressure the various Kurdish factions across the region to respect the rights and autonomy of individual Assyrian towns and villages. We must also maintain the safe zone in Northern Iraq, to ensure that Saddam Hussein's tyranny cannot cause further destruction of the Assyrian community.

The traditions and customs of the Assyrian people have endured for countless generations. Our Nation must do all it can to ensure that these proud people can continue to abide and thrive in their ancestral homeland for countless more.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my extended family, I was unavoidably absent on Tuesday, May 12, 1998, and as a result, missed rollcall votes on H. Res. 423, H.R. 3811, H.R. 2829, and H. Res. 422.

Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted "aye" for all of these rollcall votes.

And I ask that my statement appear at the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

AMERICAN ARAB AND JEWISH FRIENDS OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT HOLDS 12TH ANNUAL AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Arab and Jewish Friends of Metropolitan Detroit as they hold their 12th Annual Awards and Scholarship Dinner on Sunday, May 17, 1998 and honor two distinguished leaders from each community.

"The Friends" organization was established in 1981 to promote greater understanding and friendship between these two communities involving issues in Metropolitan Detroit. This annual dinner reflects their mission statement as it raises funds for college scholarships for Arab and Jewish high school seniors. The scholarship recipients are the winners of an essay contest emphasizing "The Ties That Bind" Americans of Arab, Chaldean, and Jewish backgrounds.

This year "The Friends" will honor two outstanding individuals who have sought to promote greater understanding between Arabs and Jews. They are both influential community activists who have been successful because of their intelligence, hard work, persistence, and a deep commitment to and caring for their community.

Dr. Haifa Fakhouri is the President and CEO of the Arab-American and Chaldean Council, the nation's largest community-based human service agency serving the Arabic and Chaldean speaking populations of southeast Michigan. Under her leadership, the Council grew from a single office in downtown Detroit to an agency of 28 outreach centers in the tri-county area. She has also served as a Special Advisor to the United Nation's on women's issues in the Arab World and as a delegate to the International Women's Conference in Mexico. Her work has been recognized through several awards including the Wayne State University Headliner Award and the Governor's Leadership Award.

Ms. Florine Mark is the President and CEO of The WW Group, Inc., the nation's largest franchise of Weight Watchers International. She started the company and has been the CEO for over 30 years during which the company has grown to approximately 70,000 members. She also serves as the Chair of the Detroit Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and serves on the boards of numerous community organizations including the American Red Cross, the Detroit Renaissance Board, and Hospice of Southeastern Michigan. Her work has been recognized through several awards including the National Association of Women Business Owners and the Michigan Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to pay tribute to these outstanding leaders and friends and to an organization which plays an important role in reminding all of us that we share a common goal of peace and security in the Middle East and community activism at home.

IN APPRECIATION OF NATIONAL POLICE WEEK MAY 14TH, 1998

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, thirty-six years ago, President John F. Kennedy designated May 15th as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15th falls as National Police Week. I rise today to salute all law enforcement officers across this country, and to remember those who lost their lives in the line of duty.

The protection offered to each of us by this country's law enforcement officials should not be taken for granted, nor should we forget the men and women who lost their lives in the line of duty. In 1997, 160 law enforcement officers, nearly forty percent more than in 1996, lost their lives in the line of duty. From 1990-1995, there had been an average of 151 fatalities annually.

Over the past two years, the city of Buffalo has lost two of our finest law enforcement officials, killed in the line of duty. On April 9, 1997, Officer Charles McDougal was senselessly murdered while on duty. Just a few months ago, Officer Robert McLellan was killed while chasing a fugitive sought by bounty hunters. Both officers served their community with honor, distinction and bravery.

Members of the law enforcement agency throughout this country play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of all Americans. We must continue to recognize

and appreciate the problems, duties and responsibilities faced by all law enforcement officials throughout this country.

Everyday, men and women across America go to work with the single purpose of making all of our lives safer. They work long hours in an often thankless job. But this week is our chance to thank them for all they have done and continue to do. It is also a chance to remember those that have died while making our country a safer place.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon all citizens of this country to observe Friday May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day in honor of those peace officers who, through their courageous deeds, have lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty.

HONORING JACK MCDOWELL, PULITZER PRIZE WINNING JOURNALIST, POLITICAL CONSULTANT, BELOVED FATHER AND HUSBAND

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise with the sad duty of informing you that America has lost an honored journalist, a warm friend and a great family man. Jack McDowell, whose storied career included winning a Pulitzer Prize for the now-defunct San Francisco Call-Bulletin, serving as political editor and columnist for the San Francisco Examiner and culminating with 26 years as partner in the highly successful political consulting firm Woodward & McDowell, has died at this home in Atherton. He was 84.

Born in Alameda to the founder and publisher of the Alameda Times-Star, McDowell quite literally had journalism in his blood. As a boy he snuck out of camp to make a lone trek through the Sierra snow to file a report from the ranger's station about how his Alameda boy scout troop was marooned by a freak springtime storm.

After attending what is now San Jose State University during Prohibition, McDowell went on to become managing editor and co-owner with his brother, W. Clifford McDowell, of the Eugene (Ore.) Daily News and Turlock Daily Journal.

In 1942 he was hired as a reporter for the Call-Bulletin. Three years later his story about the new process of donating blood that followed a donor's pint into the Pacific Theater of World War II and into the soldier who received the transfusion was awarded the Pulitzer Prize.

As his career progressed to writing a daily column, "Memo from Mac" and on to city editor of the Call-Bulletin, McDowell's noteworthy stories included confronting a wanted killer on the streets of San Francisco and taking the suspect back to the city room for an exclusive interview before turning him over to the police.

It was during the eras of Governors Goodwin Knight, "Pat" Brown and Ronald Reagan that McDowell served as political editor and columnist for the San Francisco Examiner. He was recognized as the dean of the capital press corps and was often found at his "unofficial" office, the renowned gathering spot for California politicians, Frank Fat's.